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Rupert Feb. 16. 1893.

My dear Sister Mary.

I think you will soon give me the praise of being a pretty faithful correspondent, or that I shall at last escape the censure of a delinquent.

Best I love my dear sister to take my pen and sit and talk with you, and very much love to meet your communications. Here we do not expect to meet again, here below: but we will rejoice that we are permitted to commune with one another through the medium of the pen: And my dear Sister Mary how pen the days will be, & how rapidly those will fly, before we shall be permitted (we fondly hope) through the grace of God to sit down together, & recount the mercies of God, & never again give the parting hand. Oh my dear sister shall we then be less happy on account of this separation? — because Jesus honoured us so much, as to permit us to labour in his vineyard, & made us willing to walk in the way which he directed?

Oh no I am conscious that my only sorrow will be, that I have loved my Saviour so little, — served him so unfaithfully & have been willing to deny myself so little for his sake.

I am again in the bosom of my dear home. It is a good place. I love it. but with the grace of God I can leave it, & do it cheerfully too: will you pray much that this may be the case. I feel that I may almost claim this, at the hands of my friends, or at least confidently expect it from them. I know that I cannot be sufficiently thankful that the Lord has made them thus cheerful in dedicating

me to his service, & surely they will accompany their dedication with earnest prayer that I may be a faithful servant. Dear Sister you are now cheerful & I hope heartily in the surrender, am is it not so? I long to receive from you to this effect. I have been waiting to be made glad by you, hope very soon to receive a long letter from you.

You have heard of the return of Mr. Allen Graves & wife to this country — they have just arrived at Fairhaven. Mr. G.'s health is quite poor, but improving slowly. I hope to learn much from them, which will be calculated to prepare me for my station: and while our heavenly Father is removing one missionary after another from the field of labour shall not our hearts become increasingly interested in behalf of the cause of God among our benighted brethren in heathen lands? There is indeed a great work to be accomplished before all will enjoy the light of life.

At the monthly concerts I love to think that your dear husband takes an active part in this glorious cause.

Dear Sir. you will not suffer your exertions to relax, will you; but continue to do all in your power to excite a deep interest in the hearts of others in their behalf. Oh do we begin to feel for them, to labour for them, to deny ourselves, to pray and to desire their conversion to God, as we ought. When I look at myself, and at the dear Saviour, & his cause among the benighted heathen I feel that I have hardly begun; and am ready to exclaim, when shall I begin to serve the Lord. Surely gratitude should fill our hearts, that our Father God will permit us to be coworkers with him.

Please gratify me soon with a long letter. I have but few of yours to carry with me to Siam. should I be permitted to go. I want many more — It does me much good to read old letters, when I am dear away from my friends — Much love to all friends. Your sister, Maria

I think I remember hearing Mrs. Smith say he would write America a letter. Please ask if he remembers it. Tell Mrs. Hall I have not forgotten her request for some specimens of Assamese love-making — but I am in haste —

Vol III

Dear Mary

I had intended to have written you a long letter myself to send by this opportunity, but Bro & Sister returning just at this time my leisure has been much occupied & so you will excuse me if I fill but part of a sheet as another will occupy the remainder better than I shall. Many thanks to Master F.B.B. for his very acceptable letter— I dare not send kisses for fear of the poor little cheeks, but please to assure him my affection & esteem for him are very sincere, & it would surely afford much happiness to be favoured with a personal acquaintance. I hardly know what to say or whether to say any thing about returning to Pamunkey at present. I do not yet feel that the path of duty is plain— but cannot tell how it may appear in a few months, however clear in this, I do not think it right my duty to the Infant School with my present qualifications. Therefore you may say to my friends that it is not consistent to comply with their wishes in that respect— I expect to remain in Rupert for the present, my second term is half through, after the close I shall probably be engaged with Sister while she remains, & Our Mother may then need me to comfort her, or I her to comfort to me, or Providence may direct me to some other field of labour. If I may but be found in the service of God my friends will rejoice & I will be content, remembering that this is not our place of rest. Is it not a matter of rejoicing that ourselves & friends may be engaged in the service of God? how honourable the employment, how reasonable, how happy, how safe!! Does it matter where they are? I do not know but it will matter when we really come to the trial— Ever will pray for us, that we may be strong in the Lord. Charlotte is expected home daily, her health we hear is much improved— Much love to Esther, I should have thought she would have written a line by Mrs. Clark. I suppose she has a good excuse

I am grateful for the kindness so kindly shown, you will not think of me becoming absent, returning to Pamunkey, I have been (long waiting for Christ to the made known— My Lord and Master to guide, & keep me in the path of duty, it is a matter of happiness & interest & I am glad & hopeful I shall not be disappointed & express so little

No 6

Mrs Mary Smith

Gouverneur

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